IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/560,744 Confirmation No. 1685

Applicant : Kokubo et al.

Filing or § 371 date : 15 DEC 2005

TC/A.U. : 1616

Examiner : A. M. Holt

Office Action : 06/30/2009

Docket No. : TAN-357

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22314-1450

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action of June 30, 2009. Please note the following:

Amendments to the specification: None.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6.